

Overture

online



*Gail Kruvand Elected New
Secretary/Treasurer*

*Spring Membership Drive:
Spread the Word!*

Overture

online

- Official monthly electronic magazine of the
American Federation of Musicians Local 47 -

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AFM LOCAL
47

Message From the Editor

Please be aware that until further notice, AFM Local 47 will not be publishing, due to cost-saving measures, a print Overture Magazine. We will continue to publish our monthly digital e-magazine, Overture Online, and will continue email blasts and our Local 47 Beat email newsletter.

In order to better serve you, Local 47 is looking at every possible way to cut costs and save on administrative expenses. One simple yet effective step all members can take to help us reduce expenses is to add your current email address to your Directory profile. This allows us to ensure that you receive timely updates from Local 47 in the most cost-effective way possible.

Please update your Directory profile with your current email and notification preferences by filling out the update form at afm47.org/directory or call 323.462.2161. Thank you!

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**AFM Stands in Solidarity with WGA
in Their Fight to Win a Fair Contract**

President Stephanie O'Keefe



The month of May begins with a significant date in the Labor movement.

May 1 is known as International Workers' Day – a day celebrated around the world. In the United States, May 1, 1886, was the day workers began a nationwide strike, calling for an eight-hour workday. In Chicago, this strike, which became known as the Haymarket Affair of 1886, was marked by violence, resulting in both injuries and deaths.

But what does this have to do with our profession in 2023? Unfortunately, quite a bit.

In recent weeks, I have encountered employers who have subjected musicians to unsafe working conditions, enacted punitive, retaliatory actions when billed for overtime, recorded musicians in concert without compensation, and made attempts to negotiate substandard wages. These actions are simply unacceptable, and these employers are being dealt with swiftly and firmly.

The public doesn't always perceive professional musicians as labor – frankly, we don't always see ourselves that way. But the reality is that, to employers, we are a workforce, with all that that label entails.

However, we are also highly skilled, highly trained, artists and we create a product so magical and so essential, that most people cannot imagine living without it. These truths, I feel, are the source of our strength and our power. Our employers are unable to do our jobs and cannot be taught how to do them – they are wholly dependent on musicians to make music.

What's new at the Local?

A highly successful jazz festival, several new collective bargaining agreements, the launch of a contract action campaign for the upcoming film and television negotiations, an election for a permanent secretary/treasurer, and the first steps towards the creation of a coalition of entertainment unions.

And perhaps most notably, we have hired an organizer. Organizing is not only the basis for what we do as a labor union, it is also essential to our growth and our continued ability to protect our members and our profession.

I invite you all to come by, visit, stay for coffee, and talk about our future.

In Solidarity,

Stephanie

Vice President Marc Sazer



May is upon us, and promises to be an exciting month for Local 47. Our rehearsal rooms are buzzing with activity; after a great deal of consideration, our Executive Board voted in April to lift our Covid mandates. This allowed us to invite everyone into our building for the Jazz Festival, and for our General Membership meeting held on April 24. It is a relief for us to see each other face to face, to share space, music and unionism together in person!

Our Electronic Media Division, which my office oversees, is responsible for getting reports and checks from employers and payroll companies, vetting and processing them, and getting them out the door to musicians. We have had ongoing problems with late payments from companies and payroll companies, and we have been active in trying to counteract this problem. Since we can only address late payments if we have advance notice of AFM sessions, we have asked all musicians to “crowdsource” this information through this secure, anonymous online form: afm47.org/sessions. Musicians are getting paid on time more often now! It works — keep the participation coming!

Unfortunately we have had a couple of instances of mail theft from the U.S. Post Office. We’ve learned that this is a national problem, but we have taken what steps we could. I visited our Burbank Post Office, spoke with a floor manager, and was assured that they are taking new security measures, and gave us a new procedure for dropping off mail in an area that will be under direct human supervision at all times. I have to remind myself that we mail around 60,000 checks a year (this doesn’t include all of our membership and other postal mail). Only a tiny fraction of those have been impacted, but we know how tough it is when a check doesn’t show up.

Monday, May 1 will be a big day here at the Local. AFM President Ray Hair, the leadership of a number of AFM Locals that have film and television work in the area, and the Fair Share for Musicians Steering Committee will be meeting for the whole day in our Executive Boardroom. The goal is to plan and strategize for the launch of the Fair Share for Musicians campaign to win a fair contract from the film studios and TV networks in the era of Disney+, HBOMax, and the rest of the streaming world.

It is with real pride that we can report that Local 47 has hired a full-time union organizer to help us with these crucial contract campaigns. Rahul Neuman is a lecturer in Classical Indian Music and ethnomusicology at UCLA, and veteran of their tremendously successful union campaigns at the UC system. He will be a tremendous asset for musicians in seeking fair contracts, and more.

Facing these huge companies will be a challenge. I spent a day as a guest observer at the Writers Guild negotiations. By the time you read this column they may or may not be on strike. The American Federation of Musicians, SAG-AFTRA, I.A.T.S.E., Teamsters 399 and others have offered full support to the Writers Guild; our issues are fundamentally the same for all of us. We all need to be paid fairly when we work on streaming media.

If the WGA is on strike, the more of us that support them the stronger they will be, and the stronger we will be. Local 47 has an online form for you to sign up to be contacted as a supporter. Please join your colleagues in this effort: afm47.org/wga

Secretary/Treasurer Gail Kruvand



Thank you, Local 47 members, for confirming me as your Secretary/Treasurer. Our April General Membership Meeting included a Special Election for the office of Secretary/Treasurer, Hearing Board and Election Board, the results of which are published in the [At the Local](#) section of this issue. This in-person meeting was held in our recently reconfigured ground floor Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place and included a presentation from Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund Executive Director Kim Roberts Hedgpeth and staff.

What would you be interested in hearing about at our next General Membership Meeting on July 24? Please call or email me with any suggestions.

A key goal of mine is to improve our communications with you. Our timely and efficient replies to your calls and emails are important, but we also want to hear from you. What do you need and expect from your union? This famous quote from president John F. Kennedy resonates with me: “Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country.”

How can we help each other to grow our collective power? A first step is simply participating. Any member in good standing is welcome to attend our weekly Executive Board meetings. Read our biweekly and monthly communications. Attend General Membership Meetings. Information is power! Our union is only as strong as our member involvement.

Please keep your contact information current. Visit afm47.org/directory or email directory@afm47.org to make any changes. We have checks returned every day as undeliverable or unable to forward by the USPS. Can we make it easier for you to update your account? Let us know! We need your help! I can be reached by phone at 323.993.3160 or email at gail.kruvand@afm47.org. I look forward to hearing from you.

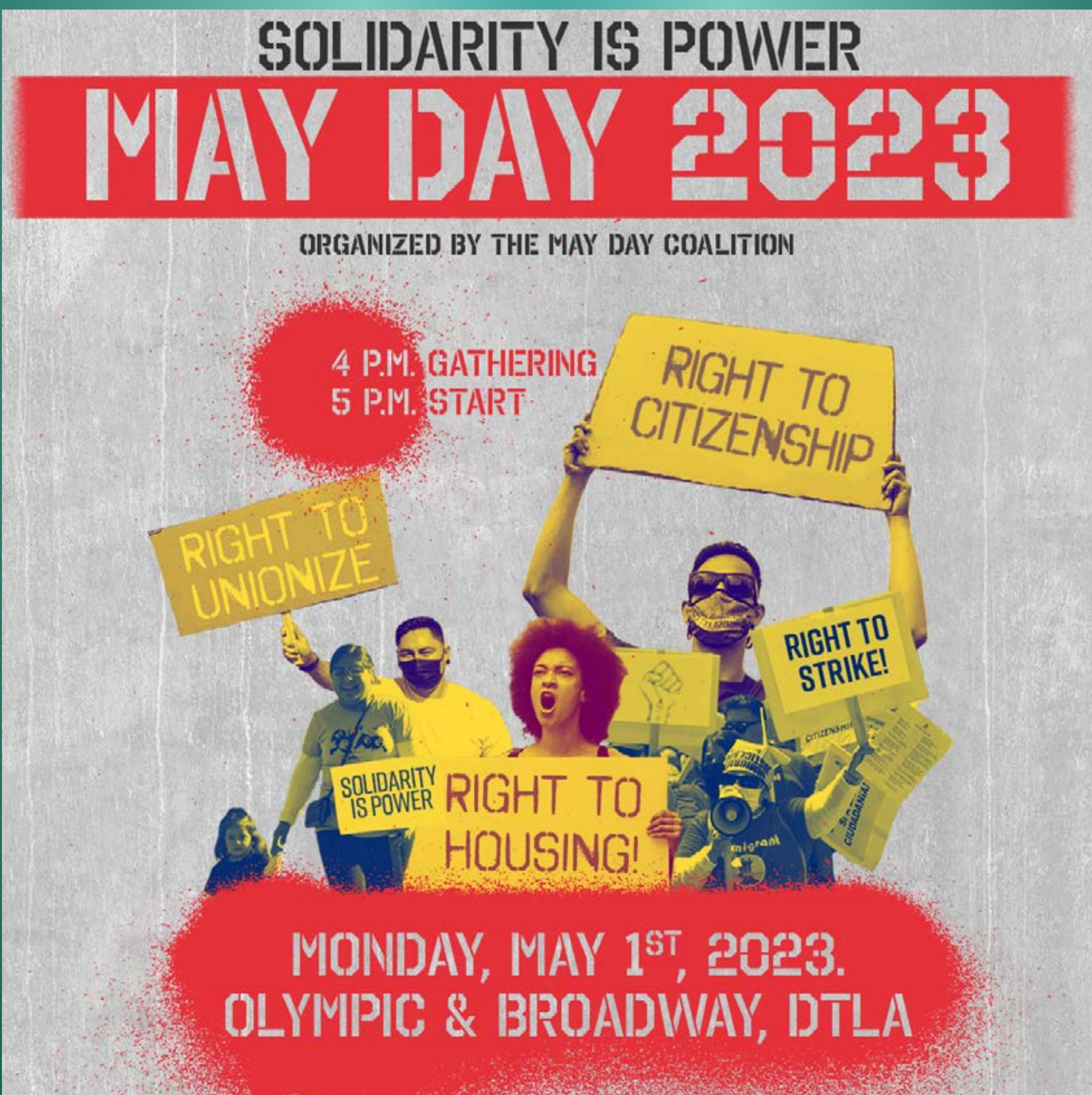


Celebrating May Day

May Day, also known as International Workers' Day, is a celebration of laborers and the working classes promoted by the international labor movement and occurs every year on May 1.

Traditionally, May 1 is the date of the European spring festival of May Day. In 1889, the Marxist International Socialist Congress met in Paris and established the Second International as a successor to the earlier International Workingmen's Association. They adopted a resolution for a "great international demonstration" in support of working-class demands for the eight-hour day.

The May 1st date was chosen by the American Federation of Labor to commemorate a general strike in the United States, which had begun on May 1, 1886 and culminated in the Haymarket affair four days later. The demonstration subsequently became a yearly event. The 1904 Sixth Conference of the Second International called on "all Social Democratic Party organizations and trade unions of all countries to demonstrate energetically on the First of May for the legal establishment of the eight-hour day, for the class demands of the proletariat, and for universal peace."



May Day 2023 is here! Join Los Angeles labor in the streets of DTLA starting at 4 p.m. to march for the diverse issues our communities face, because #SolidarityIsPower! We will march for citizenship, housing, and the right to strike and unionize.

[Facebook Event Page](#)

DO WE HAVE ROYALTIES FOR YOU?



More than \$650 Million Distributed to Musicians & Vocalists

Royalties Distributed to Both Union & Non-Union Session Musicians & Vocalists For
Their Performance on Songs Played on Satellite Radio, Non-Interactive Streaming Services,
Webcasts, Other Digital Formats and Certain Music Performed on Film & Television

Find Out If We Have Royalties For You

www.afmsagaatrafund.org

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p. 818.255.7980 | f. 818.255.7985

www.afmsagaatrafund.org



The AFM & SAG-AFTRA IPRD Fund is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization - est. 1998



Reggie Watts

Reggie Watts, known for his improvised musical sets created using only his voice, a keyboard, and a looping machine, refers to himself as a "disinformationist" who aims to disorient his audience in a comedic fashion.

He utilizes improvisation in his solo shows, which consist of him singing and rapping both with words and with sound poetry, accompanying himself by either beatboxing, performing vocal basslines into a loop machine, or simply by playing the keyboard. His act also showcases his trademark style of stand-up comedy, consisting of him rapidly alternating between topics of discussion in both rational and nonsensical manners, making random sounds and gibberish noises, and speaking in other accents and languages at unexpected times, all with the intent of playfully and comically disorienting his audiences.

Reggie was the regular house musician on the spoof IFC talkshow "Comedy Bang! Bang!" and for eight years led the house band for "The Late Late Show with James Corden," which aired its final episode on April 28.



A Goodnight Song from Reggie Watts & Melissa - The band wraps up episode 956 of "The Late Late Show with James Corden" with a fun performance.

Thank you, Reggie Watts and MELISSA!

The Executive Board of AFM Local 47 hereby extends its appreciation and commendation to the members of Melissa, formerly known as Karen. Local 47 members Reggie Watts, Hagar Ben-Ari, Guillermo E. Brown, Steve Scalfati, and Tim Young have demonstrated brilliant musical artistry as the house band for "The Late Late Show with James Corden," since its beginning in 2015 through its conclusion in 2023.

We thank you for your membership, your participation and your musical gift to the world throughout this long run.

*With admiration and appreciation,
The AFM Local 47 Executive Board*

Events



Holiday Office Closure

Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day

Monday, June 19 - Juneteenth

Next General Membership Meeting

Monday, July 24, 7:30 p.m.

AFM Local 47 Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place

3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504

Ongoing Events:

Executive Board Meetings

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. (online via Zoom)

Members welcome as observers

New Member Orientation

Third Thursdays, 10 a.m. (online via Google Meet)

Required of all new members.

afm47.org/orientation

View our full calender of events

@ afm47.org/calendar



Gail Kruvand Elected New Secretary/Treasurer

At our April 24, 2023 Local 47 General Membership Meeting, Special Elections took place to fill five vacant offices. The first vote for Secretary/Treasurer yielded the following returns:

SECRETARY/TREASURER – 1 elected

Gail Kruvand – 52

Gary Lasley – 4

Kruvand assumed office immediately upon the completion of the ballot count announcement and certification by the Election Board during the meeting. Kruvand succeeds Danita Ng-Poss, who had served as Secretary/Treasurer since January 2021 until her resignation in January 2023.

Gail Kruvand's career as a bassist in New York City spanned 40 years. She worked in many areas including the major orchestras of Lincoln Center, freelance concerts, recording and Broadway. As a member of the New York City Opera Orchestra (and eventually personnel manager) she was on the orchestra committee and elected as a delegate to ICSOM, one of the five Player Conferences in the AFM. Her interest in how people organize themselves to "get things done" from school PTAs concerned with their children's education to orchestra committees seeking better contracts to freelancers who must stand together or fall apart naturally led to union involvement. In addition to her service on the Executive Board at Local 802 from 2010-2017, she graduated from the Cornell University Union Leadership Institute in 2014. Additional studies resulted in a Certificate in Labor Relations from the City University of NY in 2015. Gail was appointed as a rank-and-file trustee to the American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund in 2017. As a delegate to the AFM Convention in 2013 and 2016, she chaired the Measures and Benefits Committee in 2016. Gail Kruvand looks forward to having the opportunity to serve as Secretary/Treasurer at AFM Local 47.

New Members Appointed to Hearing & Election Boards

Special elections for two vacancies each on the Hearing Board and Election Board were held at our April 24th General Membership Meeting. The results of voting were as follows:

HEARING BOARD – 2 elected

Michael Arnold – 49

Marcy Vaj – 45

Leslie Baker – 15

ELECTION BOARD – 2 elected

Paul Castillo – 41

Clifford Tasner – 35

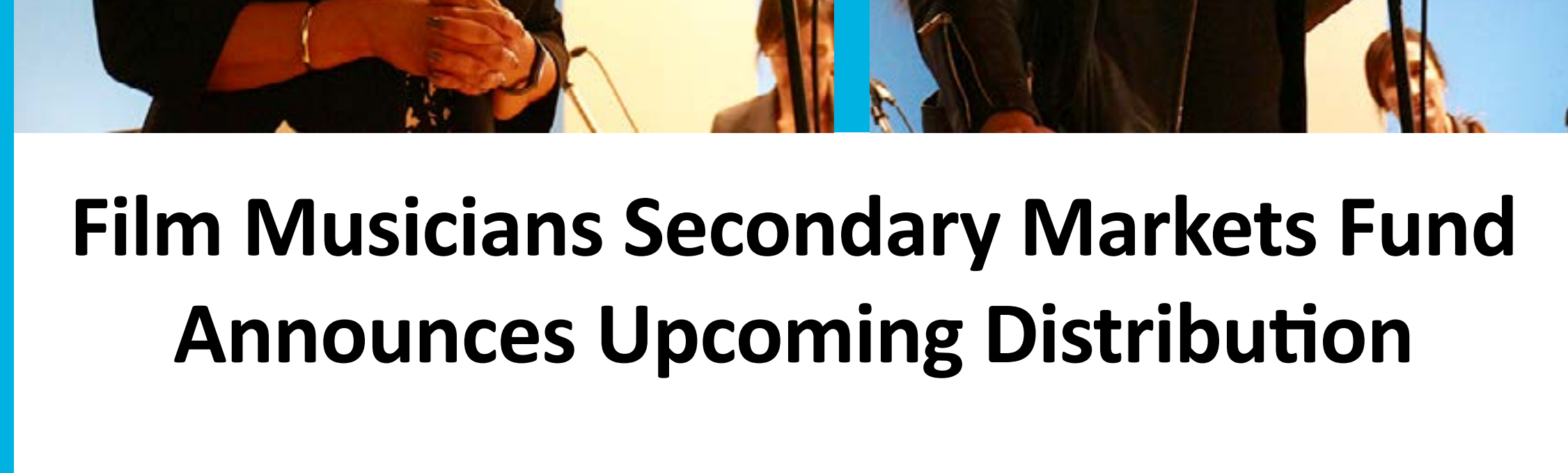
Oliver Theess – 26

Thank you to all nominees and members who participated in the Special Elections, and congratulations to all of our newly elected officials!



Gus Klein Receives 50-Year Pin

Congratulations to Life Member Gus Klein, who received his AFM Local 47 50-year pin on April 24. A French horn player, Gus has spent his career performing with top bands including Earth, Wind & Fire as well as on many major motion pictures on scores by Walter Murphy, Alan Silvestri, Henry Mancini, Les Baxter and Elmer Bernstein.



Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund Announces Upcoming Distribution

Our April meeting also featured special guest speakers from the Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund. Executive Director Kim Roberts Hedgpeth and General Counsel Roxanne Castillo (*pictured above, from left*) led a discussion about the Fund's work serving the film, television, and music communities and meeting the needs of film musicians whose talents fuel the industry, and the upcoming distribution which will take place on June 30.

Important Fund dates for 2023:

May 1 - Deadline to submit a request for a divorce accommodation (see [here](#) for more details).

May 19 - Deadline for all address, tax, and beneficiary updates. Final opportunity to enroll in Direct Deposit and GO PAPERLESS for the Regular distribution.

June 30 - Regular distribution.

Aug. 25 - Deadline for address updates and Direct Deposit/GO PAPERLESS enrollment for Omissions distribution.

Sept. 15 - Omissions distribution.

All issued checks are valid for 90 days only — please make sure to cash them within this time frame before they are stale-dated.

FMSMF strongly encourages participants to enroll in the Fund's Go Paperless program. For more details, please visit [GO PAPERLESS FAQs](#).

Save the date for our next General Membership Meeting: Monday, July 24, 2023, 7:30 p.m. AFM Local 47 Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place 3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504

Open to all Local47 members in good standing



Spring Membership Drive *Spread the Word!*

As a professional musician, you know that your real strength comes from working collectively with other musicians. Help spread the word about the benefits of union membership during our Spring Membership Drive!

If you know someone who should be in the union, now is the perfect time to join. Now through June 30, new and returning members pay ZERO initiation fees — a \$140 discount!

Learn more at afm47.org/join.

Be a Union Advocate!

- Print out our flyer to distribute at your local school or music-networking group
- Share our afm47.org/join link on social media
- Talk to your non-member colleagues about the many benefits of union membership
- Add your answer to our [#WhyUnion? campaign](#) to let everyone know why you value your union membership!

COVID Policy Update

Vaccination against COVID-19, masking, and testing are encouraged, but not required, for all persons entering the AFM Local 47 Capt. Greg Welch Gathering Place and rehearsal rooms.

Please stay home if you are ill, have COVID-19 symptoms, or have been in contact with someone known to be or suspected to have been infected with COVID-19 within the last 10 days.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health recommends that everyone 6 months and older be fully vaccinated or obtain a negative COVID-19 viral test prior to entering public indoor spaces. For more information please visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

Claim Your Money!

The musicians listed [here](#) have not responded to notices of checks in escrow at Local 47. If your name is listed or you know the whereabouts of these musicians or their beneficiaries, please contact our Finance Department:

323.993.3146, bookkeeping@afm47.org

IS YOUR BENEFICIARY CARD CURRENT?



Visit:
afm47.org/beneficiary

Your beneficiary card designates the recipient of the Local 47 \$1,000 death benefit. If you need to change your beneficiary, update beneficiary information, or if you just can't remember who you have listed, please visit afm47.org/beneficiary.

If you have any change of beneficiary or contact info updates, be sure to also to report them to:

AFM Pension Fund (AFM-EPF) – (800) 833-8065
Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund –
(818) 755-7777

Sound Recording Special Payments Fund:
(212) 310-9100

AFM & SAG-AFTRA Intellectual Property Rights
Fund: 818-255-7985

Please note: This benefit is not payable to a beneficiary if the member was suspended, expelled or had resigned at time of passing.

Members-Only Documents Online

Members may log in to the [members section at afm47.org](https://afm47.org) and navigate to the "Docs" page to view members-only documents including Executive Board minutes, CBAs, Local 47 Wage Scales, Bylaws, Suspended/Expelled member lists, and more.

HELP ELIMINATE LATE PAYMENTS



The AFM and Local 47 want to make certain that musicians are being **paid on time**.

Please scan the code above or visit bit.ly/session47 when you receive a session call and let us know – anonymously – when it is to occur. Once we have that information – something not always provided to the Union – we can “start the clock” and track payments to musicians, assessing late penalties when appropriate.

If you have any questions, please contact Electronic Media Division Administrator Rebecca Gurnee at emd@afm47.org or 323.993.3143.



Go Paperless!

Sign up to receive work dues statements online @ afm47.org/paperless



Streaming and Your Livelihood

- It takes an annual salary of \$207,500 to qualify for a mortgage on a median home in Los Angeles.
- If you work primarily on traditional film and TV projects, you would need to play about 145 single sessions per year to afford a median home.
- If you work primarily on Made-for-Streaming projects, you would need to play 724 streaming sessions per year. That's 2 sessions a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks out of the year!

As Made-for-Streaming work (which doesn't produce residuals) continues to eclipse traditional film/TV work, AFM musicians are finding it increasingly harder to make a living.

**It's time musicians unite and demand
our Fair Share!**

FairShareForMusicians.org



#WhyUnion?

Why keep paying your AFM Local 47 Membership Dues when you're not working? Because it's the right thing to do!

Please keep your membership dues to show your respect for the institution that gave you the benefits that you enjoy today!

1. Your musical career in AFM live and AFM recording contracts provided you with good wages and benefits for many years.
2. Your AFM contracts were carefully negotiated with your titled officers and lawyer teams. They fought hard for you. Your membership dues helped pay for these negotiations.
3. Through these contracts your employers contributed to your AFM Pension on your behalf.
4. Your residual checks were all negotiated under AFM hard-fought negotiations.
5. Every time you get a AFM Pension deposit or residual check in your mailbox, it's because of your years of contributions to the AFM.

PLEASE RESPECT AND HONOR THE AFM INSTITUTION THAT PROVIDES YOUR WONDERFUL BENEFITS EVEN IF YOU ARE RETIRED. IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO!

- Pam Gates, Violinist Member since 1978



AFM LOCAL 47 #WhyUnion?



#WhyUnion? Share Your Answers!

So often, people ask why they should join the Union, why a project should be placed under a Union contract, or even why, once joining, they should remain a Union member.

We're asking the members of Local 47 who, year in and year out, renew their membership, bring projects to the Local to be placed under contract, and perhaps encourage their friends and colleagues to join or remain in the Local, to answer.

Local 47's #WhyUnion? campaign features members from every part of our profession, answering in their own words, this question: "Why Union?"

[Share your answer here!](#)

On the Town



Photo by Tom Pease

Angela O'Neill and the Outrageous8

All That Jazz

First Annual AFM Local 47 Jazz Festival a Huge Success

A heartfelt thanks to all performers and attendees at our First Annual AFM Local 47 Jazz Festival!

We celebrated our three-day inaugural concert series over three Sundays in April, during Jazz Appreciation Month, in our new Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place. Generously sponsored by the Music Performance Trust Fund and AFM Local 47, and supported by CenterStaging and Union Graphics, the concerts were presented free to the public.

Hat tip to our incredible performers:

Sunday, April 2

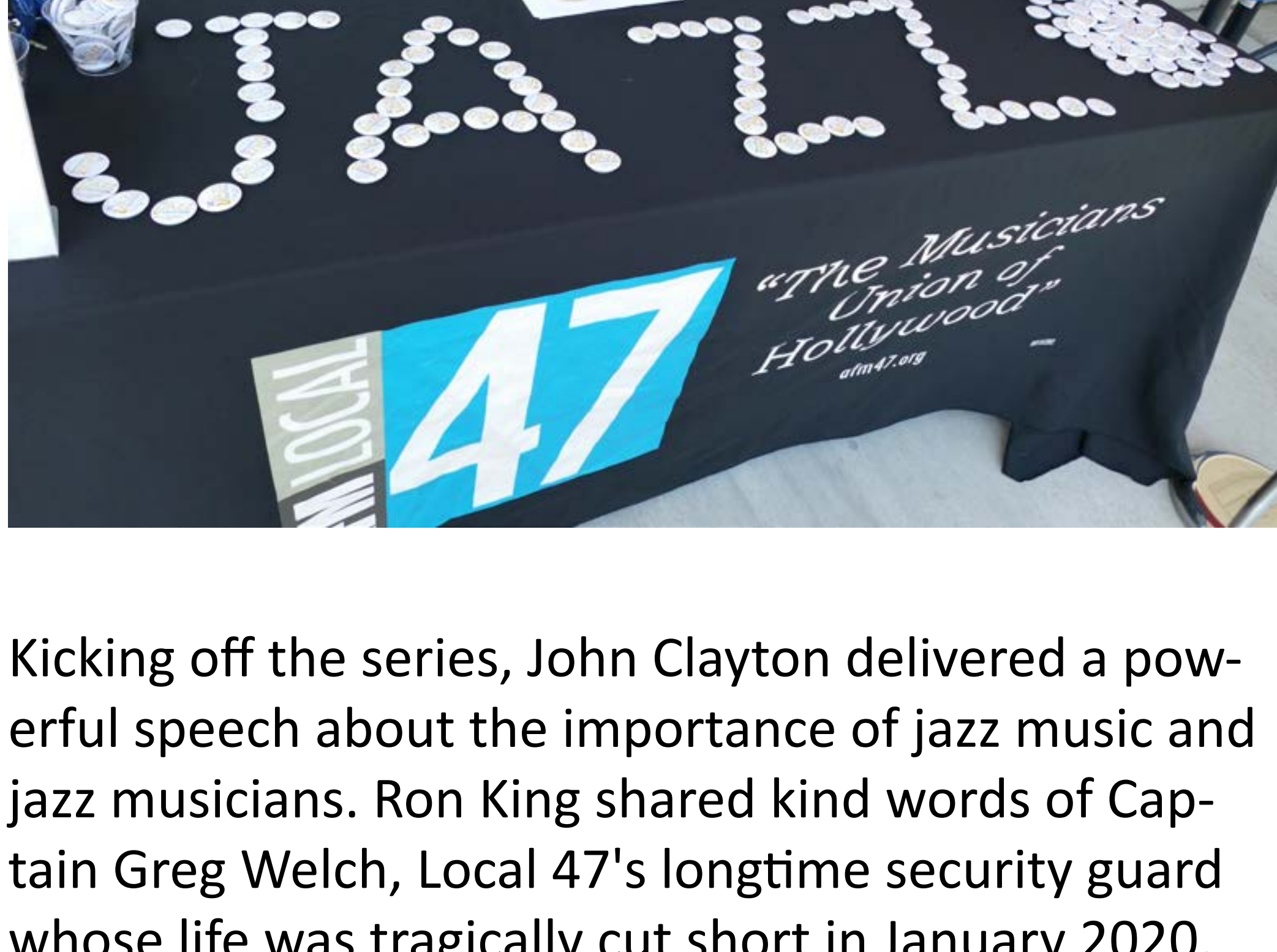
John Clayton
Brett McDonald Saxophone & Woodwind Quartet
That Chase Thing
Peggy Duquesnel Quintet
The Ron King Big Band

Sunday, April 16

Saturday Night Bath
Susie Hansen Latin Jazz Band
Bonsera
theBABAorchestra
Angela O'Neill and the Outrageous8

Sunday, April 23

The David Angel Jazz Ensemble
Los Angeles Mambo All Star Orchestra
John Leftwich Nonet
The David Wheatley Band
The Leslie Baker Quintet



Kicking off the series, John Clayton delivered a powerful speech about the importance of jazz music and jazz musicians. Ron King shared kind words of Captain Greg Welch, Local 47's longtime security guard whose life was tragically cut short in January 2020, and in honor of whom our downstairs Gathering Place is named. In another touching moment, the final performers of the festival debuted a special tribute: Leslie Baker and her band performed a special song she wrote in memory of Captain Greg Welch.

AFM Local 47 looks forward to continuing our new annual tradition next year celebrating — in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King — the "triumphant music" that is jazz, and for many years to come.



Photo by Gail Kruvand

AFM Local 47 President Stephanie O'Keefe introduces the Brett McDonald Saxophone & Woodwind Quartet



Photo by Gail Kruvand

John Clayton (bass) and his band



Photo by Janelle Showalter

Susie Hansen Latin Band

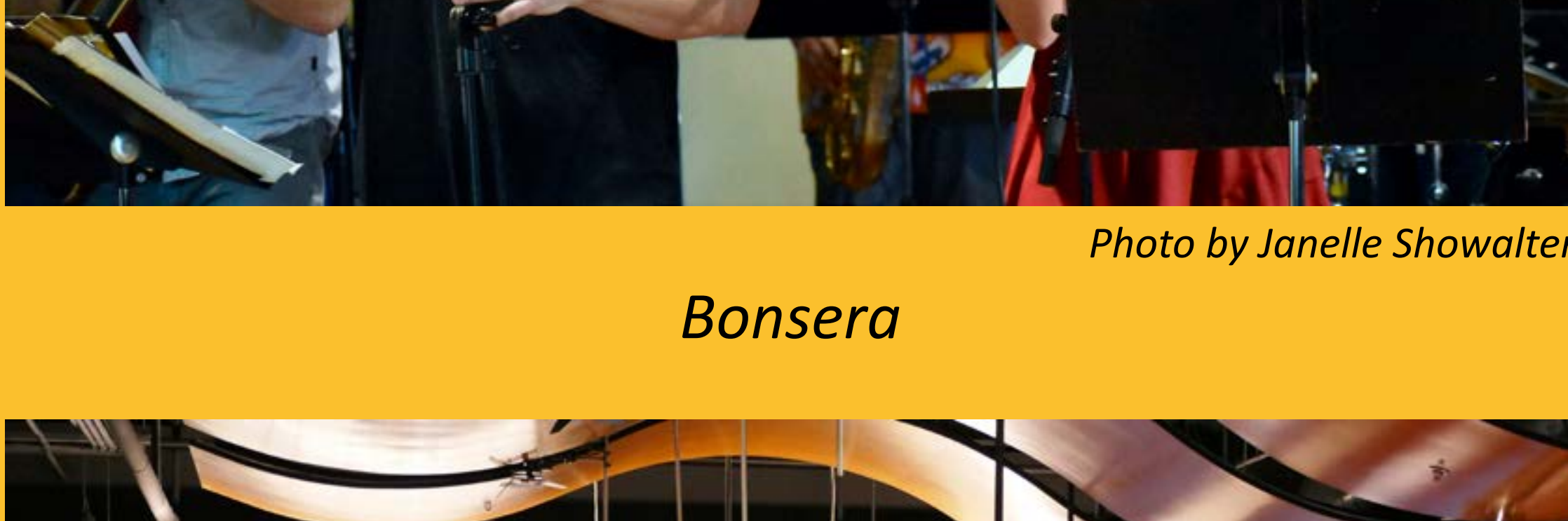


Photo by Janelle Showalter

Bonsera



Photo by Gail Kruvand

That Chase Thing



Photo courtesy of Diane Laueraman

AFM Local 47 Director Dr. Norman Ludwin, Leslie Baker, Live Performance Assistant to the President Diane Laueraman, and her granddaughter inside the Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place, with our beloved Captain Greg's tribute photograph overhead.

Got photos from the event you'd like to share with Overture? Please send them to: overture@afm47.org



A Message from the Music Performance Trust Fund

As we head into the 2023-2024 scholarship year, we are excited to announce we are continuing our annual scholarship initiatives.

We will continue our Music Family Scholarship which supports the children of professional musicians who are in current good standing membership with a local union. We will have 75 \$1,000 scholarships for these students.

We will also continue our Music's Future Scholarship which supports students pursuing degrees in music. We will have 30 \$2,500 scholarships for these students.

We know that many of you have great community relationships with local institutions of higher education. Specifically for the Music Scholarship we entrust that you will coordinate your efforts to get the word to the admissions office and students at those colleges/universities.

The scholarship applications are open through June 30, 2023.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

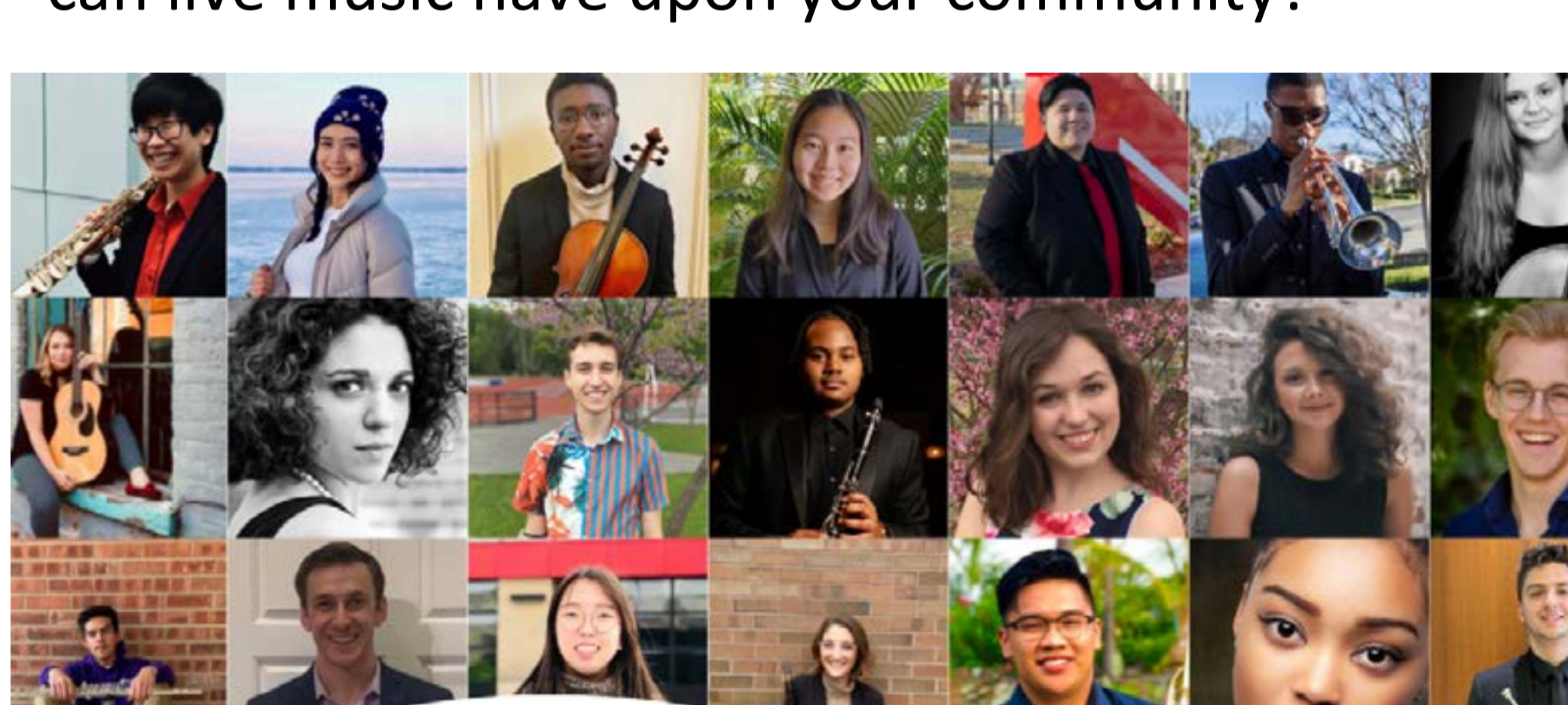
ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

MUSIC FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP



Music Family Scholarship: 75 \$1,000 scholarships

- Have at least one parent in good standing as a member of a Local AFM
- Be currently enrolled or accepted into an institute of higher education for the fall of 2023
- Submit a headshot
- Personal essay of approximately 500-750 words
- The prompt for this year is: What cultural impact can live music have upon your community?



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

MUSIC'S FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP



MUSIC'S FUTURE

Music's Future Scholarship: 30 \$2,500 scholarships

- Be enrolled in one of the following music degree programs
 - Music Performance
 - Music Therapy
 - Music Education
 - Conducting
- Obtain good academic standing, at least a 2.0 gpa
- Submit 2 letters of reference
 - Personal reference
 - Professor reference
- Resume
- Personal statement
- Prior semester transcript (either HS diploma or College Transcript) - Unofficial is fine

The prompt for this year is: In your experience, what subject matter is most important for a well-rounded education for a music-related major?

The student will need to login and create a profile at this link: [MPTF SCHOLARSHIPS](#)

Additional Information:

Any student enrolled in an institution of higher education is eligible to apply it does not matter what year they are (Freshman – Senior).

Students can be pursuing degrees from undergraduate to PhD.

Students that won in the past years are eligible to apply for the both scholarships again.

Students are only allowed to apply for one scholarship.

Students that are eligible to apply for the Music Family scholarship can choose to apply for the Music's Future Scholarship if they are eligible.



This monthly column is your one-stop-shop for information about all the benefits provided by your union membership. Got a question? [Ask us](#) to have the answer featured here.

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS LOCAL 47 AND EMPLOYERS HEALTH & WELFARE FUND

The Professional Musicians Local 47 and Employers Health & Welfare Fund is administered by PacFed Benefit Administrators. AFM Local 47 negotiates benefits on behalf of our members. The Health & Welfare Trust provides medical, dental, vision, chiropractic, acupuncture, prescription drugs and life insurance to musicians who qualify for benefits based upon contributions received on their behalf in accordance with Local 47 and AFM contracts and collective bargaining agreements.

Eligibility

Eligibility for enrollment in the Health & Welfare Fund is based upon contributions the Fund receives on musicians' behalf from Participating Employers. A Participating Employer, or an Employers' Payroll Designee, has entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the Union which calls for contributions to come to the Health & Welfare Fund. All contributions must come from a Participating Employer; musicians may not "self-pay" into the Health & Welfare Fund.

Coverage

A musician may qualify at one of three levels: Level A (\$1,500+ contribution), Level B (\$1,200-\$1,499 contribution), and Level C (\$700-\$1,199 contribution). Currently the Health & Welfare Fund has contracted with the following benefit providers: Blue Shield, Kaiser Permanente, Landmark Healthplan, Delta Dental, MES Vision underwritten by Gerber Life, and the Prudential Insurance Company of America ("Prudential Life"). To review the Summary Plan Description (SPD), please click [here](#). Any questions regarding a participant or dependent's eligibility and coverage should be directed to the Health & Welfare Fund.

Contact

The Health & Welfare Fund staff can help you with enrollment, coverage and HMO claims. The Health & Welfare Member Services department is available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-800-753-0222 or by email at musicians@pacfed.com.

Website: pacfed-musicians.com

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FLEX PLAN

The Entertainment industry Flex Plan is an employee benefit plan which combines both Employer Contributions and Employee Contributions to fund benefits including medical, dental, vision, disability, group term life insurance, and dependent care assistance for union members working in Motion Picture and Television. The Flex Plan was established in 1985 to provide Health and related benefits for "Daily-Hire" Union employees working under Collective Bargaining Agreements in the Entertainment Industry.

Eligibility

The Flex Plan covers each person who is employed by an Employer who has entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with a Local Union providing for Employer Contributions to the Flex Plan. If you are unsure if a specific employer participates in the Flex Plan, contact the Flex Plan. For a complete summary of benefits and information on Employer contributions and Employee contributions, view the Flex Plan Summary Plan Description (SPD).

Coverage

The Plan offers a flexible "cafeteria style" benefit option list in which you design your individual plan according to your needs. If you elect coverage from the Flex Plan Providers, the Flex Plan will make monthly premium payments on your behalf to the carrier(s) you select (provided your account balance is sufficient to pay all of the premiums). Please refer to the Flex Plan Summary of Benefits for descriptions and monthly costs of the coverages offered. If you do not have sufficient funds in your account to pay your premiums, the Flex Plan allows you to "self-pay" the necessary premiums for a period of 12 months.

Contact

Call the Flex Plan Member Services Department at 888.353.9401 (Monday through Friday) between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (PT). You may also contact the Flex Plan electronically here. Website: flexplan.com

SELF-PAY HEALTH CARE

If a musician does not qualify for coverage under the Health & Welfare Fund or the Flex Plan, Covered California offers individuals and small businesses residing in California to purchase private health insurance coverage at federally subsidized rates. For information about coverage outside of California, visit healthcare.gov. AFM Local 47 members may also contact Mark Cormany of French Cormany Insurance Services at 949.975.1155.



A Message from AFM-EPF:

Online Resources Available From the Pension Fund

American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund (AFM-EPF) Trustees understand that this pension benefit is both valuable and complex for participants. We've assembled some practical, easy-to-understand information on afm-epf.org. Even better, you don't have to register for the website to access this information (although we encourage you to do so for additional tools and resources).

With one click to the Participants page, here's what you'll find:

How Our Pension Plan Works

Learn more about AFM-EPF, its Trustees and your pension benefit

[What is the AFM-EPF?](#)

[Role of a Trustee](#)

[How the Plan is Governed](#)

[How the Money Flows](#)

[What the Fund Office Does](#)

[What's Happening with ARPA](#)

[Benefits of Diversification](#)



Retirement is Down the Road

Things to consider and action to take even if retirement is years away

[Tips You Can Use Now](#)

[You Need to Designate a Beneficiary](#)

[How to Register for the Participant Portal](#)

[How the Pension Estimator Works](#)



Life Happens

Tips and information to help you manage life's unexpected events

[You Need to Designate a Beneficiary](#)

[What to Do if You Get Divorced](#)

[How You Can Protect Your Loved Ones](#)

[How and When to Contact the Fund Office](#)



Retirement is Around the Corner

Be prepared. Learn what you need to do before you need to do it!

[Tips for Approaching Retirement](#)

[You Need to Designate a Beneficiary](#)

[How to Register for the Participant Portal](#)

[How the Pension Estimator Works](#)

[Navigating the Application Process](#)

[Optional Forms of Payment](#)

[How to Start Your Benefits](#)



For more information visit:
www.afm-epf.org





AFM Musicians Stand in Solidarity with WGA in Their Fight to Win a Fair Contract

The American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada has joined SAG-AFTRA, DGA, and IATSE in support of the Writers Guild of America and its ongoing negotiations for a new film and TV contract.

“We support the writers represented by the Writers Guild of America West and the Writers Guild of America East in their collective fight to win a fair contract,” states AFM President Ray Hair. “Writers are the backbone of the entertainment industry. They deserve to be paid fairly for their work in films, network television series, cable and new media productions. Streaming services are now the dominant force in the entertainment industry, and we stand with the writers asking to be compensated fairly for their work.”

The Writers Guild of America is currently in contract negotiations with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, but the current contract ends on May 1, and the WGA members have officially authorized a strike. The April 17 vote showed that 97.9% of participating union members approved of the potential strike. These results set a new record for both turnout and the percentage of support in a strike authorization vote.

Support the WGA!

Sign up at afm47.org/wga to support writers with upcoming campaign events.

Final Notes



In Memoriam

John (Jack) Coan

Life Member. Trumpet

2/7/1930 – 3/4/2023

Member since: 6/19/1968

Alan (Weaver) Copeland

Life Member. Piano

10/6/1926 – 12/28/2022

Member since: 5/31/1967

Gerald Fried

Life Member. Composer

2/13/1928 – 2/17/2023

Member since: 8/16/1956

D. R. Frost

Life Member. Drum Set

7/25/1927 – 2/21/2023

Member since: 7/27/1945

Frank Tracy Wells

Life Member. Vibraphone/Vibraharp

8/16/1924 – 2/17/2023

Member since: 2/27/1979

Send your Final Notes remembrances using our online submission form at: afm47.org/overture

or you may send to:

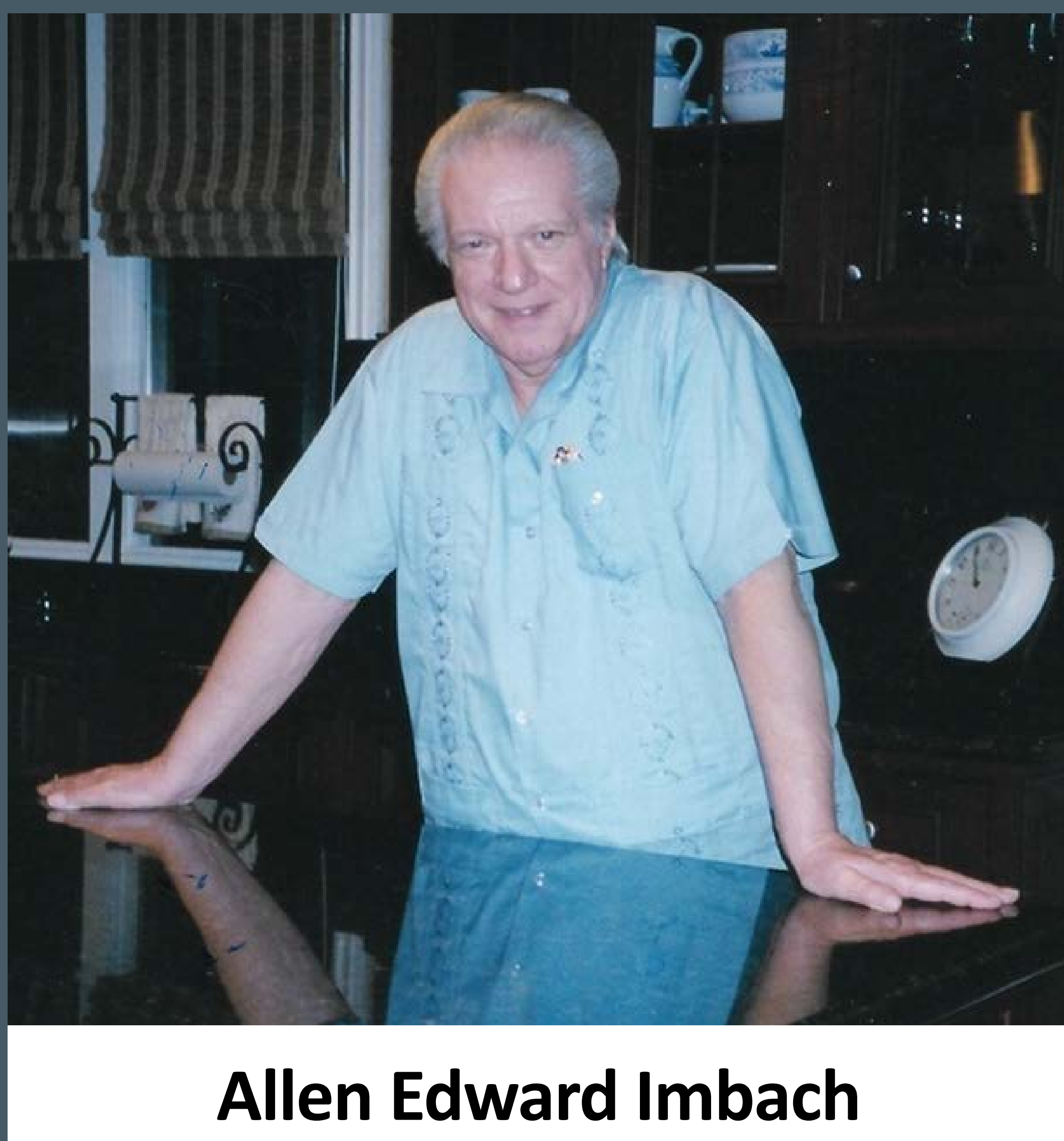
overture@afm47.org

Local 47 Overture Online

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504

Final Notes



Allen Edward Imbach

Life Member. Trombone

3/11/1938 – 2/28/2023

Allen Edward (“Al”) Imbach, legendary Las Vegas and Los Angeles trombone player, arranger, composer, conductor and beloved brother, husband, father, grandfather and uncle, passed peacefully from natural causes on February 28, 2023 in Las Vegas, Nevada with his devoted son by his side. Al was 84 years old.

Born on March 11, 1938 in Van Nuys, California, Al was the younger of Esther and Robert Imbach’s two children. He was raised in Van Nuys and took up the trombone at the age of 8.

After graduating from Van Nuys High School in 1956, Al attended Los Angeles Valley College where he studied music theory and composition and joined the American Federation of Musicians Local 47, Los Angeles. He dropped out of Valley College to pursue a full-time a career as a professional musician.

By 1958 at the of 20, Al was a busy and in-demand professional trombone player in Los Angeles due to his versatile big band, Dixieland, jazz and orchestral playing skills. That year he joined the “Lawrence Welk Plymouth Junior Orchestra,” began a six-year, six-nights-a-week stint with Rosy McHargue & His Dixieland Band at The Cottage in Pasadena, California and married Donna Eleanor Lamb.

A year later in 1959, Al’s only child, Scott Allen Imbach, was born.

From 1958-1964, Al also appeared with Rosy McHargue’s band at such diverse venues as the Porpoise Room at Marineland of the Pacific and Harvey’s Wagon Wheel Saloon and Gambling Hall in Lake Tahoe. During this time, Al and his family resided in Southern California in Pasadena, Redondo Beach and Venice.

In 1966 while appearing with Bob Braymond at the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas, Al left Braymond to permanently relocate to Vegas, settle down and freelance on the Strip. Shortly thereafter, Al joined the “Casino de Paris” show band at the Dunes Hotel and Casino and began a 23-year run as one of the premier lead trombone players in Las Vegas.

From 1966-1989, Al played in Vegas’ premier hotels including the Aladdin, Caesars Palace, the Desert Inn, the Frontier, the Sands, the Riviera and the Stardust. He also played with the Johnny Haig Relief Orchestra. Al performed with legendary entertainers and comedians such as Paul Anka, Tony Bennett, Milton Berle, George Burns, Bobby Darin, Sammy Davis Jr., Tom Jones, Jerry Lewis, Dean Martin, Liza Minnelli, Wayne Newton, Debbie Reynolds, Don Rickles, Frank Sinatra and countless other stars.

Over the course of his 50-year career playing trombone, Al was the lead trombone player with the big bands of Larry Elgart, Claude Gordon, Jerry Gray, Buddy Greco, Carl Lodico, Nelson Riddle and Si Zentner. He also recorded with a variety of legendary artists including Doris Day, Sammy Davis, Jr., Bruce Harper, Johnny Mathis and Tom Jones, among others. Al appeared on numerous soundtracks at 20th Century Fox and Desilu Productions as well as several television shows and specials including “The Jack Benny Show,” “The Lawrence Welk Show,” “Disney After Dark,” “The Golden Globe Awards,” “The Jerry Lewis MDA Labor Day Telethon” and “Opening Night USA with Ed McMahon.”

Beginning in 2010, Al began a 13-year collaboration with Bruce Harper that continued until Al’s passing in 2023. Al contributed arrangements and original compositions to Bruce’s highly acclaimed Big Band.

After an amicable divorce from Donna Imbach in 1975, Al married Las Vegas singer/songwriter Lee Ballard in 1981. The devoted couple also enjoyed a successful musical collaboration with Al arranging, composing and conducting for Lee until her passing in 2004.

Al found love for a third time late in life when he met Bobbi Russo. Bobbi was a former dancer, entertainer and showgirl who performed for many years in Las Vegas in a variety of musical productions on the Strip. Bobbi shared Al’s love of music and they were inseparable companions for several years until she passed in 2019.

Al was a gentle soul who pursued musical creativity and spiritual growth with a passion. He was compassionate, loving, positive and understanding. Always a great listener, Al shared his wisdom with others when asked to do so and served as a mentor to many people. He was also a great storyteller with a wicked sense of humor. Al’s kindness, wisdom and wit will be missed. The world is a better place because Al passed through it.

Al is survived by his son, Scott Imbach, and his sister, Roberta Stimpson. He leaves behind his beloved daughter-in-law, Diane Imbach, his cherished grandchildren, Emily and Tyler Imbach and his dear niece and nephews Kim Elliot and David and Darrell Stimpson.

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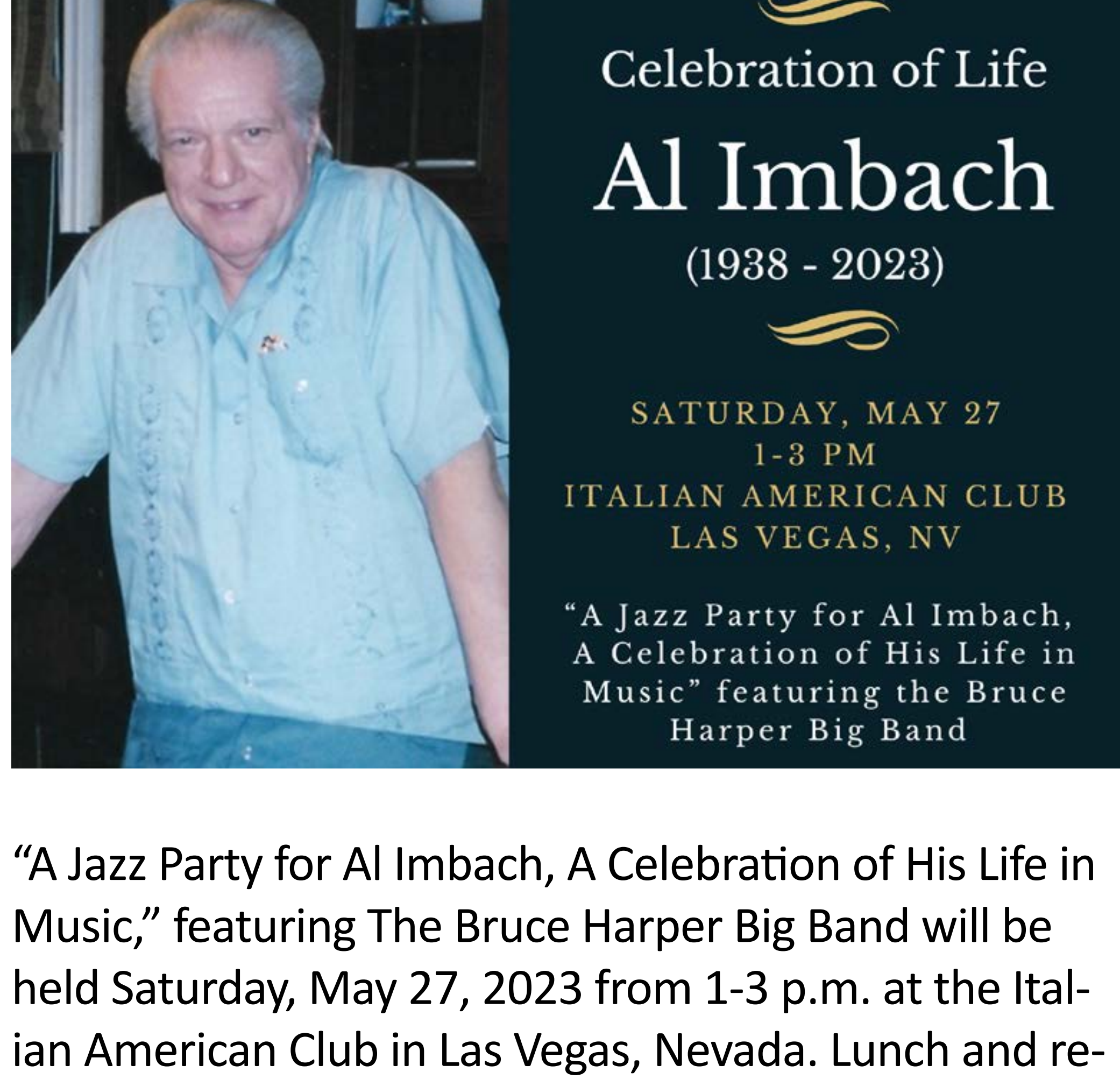
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“A Jazz Party for Al Imbach, A Celebration of His Life in Music,” featuring The Bruce Harper Big Band will be held Saturday, May 27, 2023 from 1-3 p.m. at the Italian American Club in Las Vegas, Nevada. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Al’s name to the Jazz Outreach Initiative, a (501)(c)(3) non-profit organization founded and operating in the state of Nevada that seeks to promote the cultivation of jazz music through performances, education and advocacy.

Open Mic

share YOUR story
with
the Overture

OPEN MIC!



Got a story to tell?

AFM Local 47 welcomes submissions from
our members!

Please share about your latest union recording,
performance or event by sending us your story
and photos using our online submission form at
afm47.org/overture.

Letters



We want to hear from you!

Send in your Letters to the Editor:

overture@afm47.org

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504

Please keep within a maximum of 400 words.
For full submission guidelines, please [click here](#).

Membership Dues Policy

Membership Dues Fees

Regular Member

Annual Dues: \$210

Semi-Annual Dues: \$110

Life Member

Annual Dues: \$110

Inactive Life Member

Annual Dues: \$90

Make checks or money orders payable to:

AFM Local 47,
3220 Winona Ave.
Burbank CA 91504

You may also make payments with VISA, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx by phone at 323.993.3116 or at afm47.org/dues

Dues Schedule

Annual and Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular, Life and Inactive Life Members are due **Jan. 1** of each year. Payment must be received by **March 31** (three-month grace period) to avoid suspension. If not paid by this date, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed. **Payment must be paid by June 30 to avoid expulsion.**

Likewise, Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular Members are due **July 1** and must be received by **Sept. 30** (three-month grace period) to avoid suspension. If not paid by this date, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed. **Payment must be paid by Dec. 31 to avoid expulsion.**

Please note: Inactive Life Members do not have all of the same rights as privileges as Regular and Life Members, such as the right to vote in Local elections. Please review the AFM Local 47 Bylaws for complete information.

Notice From the Executive Board: Work Dues Delinquency and Suspension

1) Local 47 members whose work dues delinquency exceeds \$500 shall be suspended; and

2) Non-Local 47 members whose work dues delinquency exceeds \$500 shall be referred to the IEB as provided in the AFM Bylaws.

In order to reinstate membership, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed.

Resignation Policy

In order to resign in good standing, you must submit your written request to Local 47 before your membership is suspended. Though dues are due Jan. 1 and July 1, current grace periods extend to March 31 and Sept. 30, respectively; suspensions are posted April 1 and Oct. 1.

In addition to membership dues, all other financial obligations, Local and International, must be paid prior to resignation. Your letter of resignation will be presented at the following Executive Board meeting and a written response will be mailed to you. If you wait, you will be required to pay another half year's dues and/or clearance fee.

AFM Local 47 Refund/Return Policy

Unless otherwise specified, Membership and Work dues payments made to AFM Local 47 are not refundable. Merchandise or other items purchased directly from AFM Local 47 may be returned within fourteen days of purchase upon return of the item(s) in the condition in which you received said item(s). To request a refund and return content, please contact AFM Local 47, Attn: Vice President's Office, 323.993.3172, merchandise@afm47.org, 3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504, to receive instructions on returning your product(s).

HELP A MUSICIAN IN NEED

Be an anonymous donor to the Local 47 Musicians Relief Fund. Send contributions to the Secretary's office or call (323) 993-3159 for more information.

Multiple-Card AFM Member Rebate

Did you know? If you hold membership in three or more Locals throughout a full calendar year, you are entitled to a rebate from the AFM.

Under the rebate program, membership in a base of two Locals must be established in order for a member to qualify for a rebate. The International Secretary/Treasurer's office has determined that a musician's membership in his or her "Home Local" and the subsequent Local of longest tenure shall be designated as the two base Locals. The Secretary/Treasurer's office will then rebate the appropriate per capita dues for membership in the third Local and any other Local(s) beyond three to which a member belonged for the entire previous calendar year.

To petition for a Multiple-Card Member Rebate, members should fill out the form and return it to the Secretary/Treasurer's office together with copies of all their paid-up membership cards, receipts of canceled checks for annual dues from all Locals, or a letter from each Local stating that the petitioner was a member in good standing of the Locals for the full year prior. Rebates will be issued after Jan. 1.

Members may download the rebate form from the international AFM website [here](http://afm.org) (afm.org login required; locate the rebate form under "Miscellaneous" in the Document Library).

Notice to All Persons Entering or Utilizing the Property of the Musicians' Club* of Los Angeles:

The premises of the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles are reserved for the exclusive use by the officers, employees, and Full, Youth, Life or Inactive Life Members in good standing of AFM Local 47 and the American Federation of Musicians. All other persons must receive written permission from the office of Local 47's president to enter or utilize these premises. Local 47 reserves the right to remove and to cite for trespass any party found on these premises who does not fulfill the above conditions of occupancy. (Note: This notice is not applicable to those making deliveries to AFM Local 47, or customers of and those making deliveries to tenants of the Local 47 headquarters.)

** The Musicians' Club of Los Angeles, Inc., is a California Non-Profit Corporation incorporated in 1926. It owns all land and improvements where AFM Local 47 conducts its business. The Corporation rents space to other tenants, mainly industry related. All members of AFM Local 47 are also members of the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles.*

Do Not Work For...

The list published at afm47.org/donotworkfor.html contains the names of employers with whom Local 47 currently has disputes.



If you have any questions about this list please contact the President's Office: 323.993.3181

Notice of Strike Sanctions

On June 24, 2015, strike sanctions were approved by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor against:

Cinema Scoring
CMG Music Recording
Peter Rotter Music Services

If and when any of the aforementioned parties calls a non-union engagement, other labor unions have agreed to stand in solidarity with Local 47 and not cross our line.

If you are being pressured to participate in non-union work or take financial-core status and quit the union, know that it is illegal for employers or employers' representatives to coerce, pressure or otherwise influence any employee to take fi-core status under the National Labor Relations Act. Should this happen to you, call 323.993.3181.

Your Union will take action — with legal counsel if necessary — on your behalf to ensure your rights as a union worker are protected.

Auditions

Modesto Symphony Orchestra

Announces auditions for the following positions:

**Section Violin I, II (multiple positions)
Assistant Principal Violin II**

Auditions will be held at:
The San Francisco Conservatory of Music
50 Oak Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Audition Date: June 8, 2023
Application Deadline: May 25, 2023**

Additional information and repertoire can be found at:

<https://www.modestosymphony.org/employment-and-auditions>

Send a one-page resume and refundable audition deposit
of \$20 to:

Matthew Siek, Director of Operations
Modesto Symphony Orchestra
911 13th Street
Modesto, CA 95354
msiek@modestosymphony.org

checks should be made payable to:
Modesto Symphony Orchestra Association

2023-2024 base service pay: \$153

Assistant principal: \$168.30

Paid Pension

Travel Compensation up to \$42 per day

Homestays/housing available

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Overture Online App

— Released monthly —

The Local 47 Beat

— Emailed biweekly —

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CONTACT: advertising@afm47.org

*For information on posting auditions, please visit
afm47.org/auditions.html*